has been no market in India for Rare Earths so far. In view of the importance of yttrium oxide to ceramic super conductors, Indian Rare Earth (IRE) has launched a programme of separation of yttrium oxide and upgrading the same to the high purity. The yttrium oxide thus separated will be held in stock for indigenous use to the extent needed.

Classification of a product under central excise

3116. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the norms for classification of a product for the purpose of Central Excise;

(b) whether it is proper either for the revenue or for the assessee to go into the considerations like the end-use and selection of raw materials etc. when a particular entry speaks only of a product and does not lay any condition with respect to the end-use or selection of raw materials etc.; and

(c) when a given entry of Central Excise Tariff describes a product without attaching any condition to it, whether conformity of physical and chemical characteristics of the given product with the one prescribed by Bureau of Indian Standards (ISI) is sufficient for classification of the given product in a specific Central Excise Tariff entry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) Classification of a product under the Central Excise Tariff is determined according to the terms of the headings and sub-headings appearing in the Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 read with the relevant Section or Chapter Notes, and, provided such headings, sub-headings or Notes do not otherwise require, according to the statutory guidelines contained in the rules for the interpretation of the Schedule.

(b) and (c) The commercial identity of a product is generally derived from its distinct name, character and use. Since goods of diverse nature are manufactured in the country, each classification issue has to be decided on merits by the proper officer of central excise keeping in view the above factors, apart from the general principles of classification outlined in reply to part (a) of the Question. Conformity of physical and chemical characteristics of a product with the one prescribed by the ISI may be of relevance, but it would not, by itself, be a conclusive factor for determining tariff classification, unless the terms of the headings or sub-headings or the relative Chapter Notes or Section Notes specifically provide for the same.

Resettlement of exservicemen

3117. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) which of the recommendations of the High Level Committee for the benefits of ex-servicemen have yet to be implemented;

(b) what is the number of services personnel retiring every year and that of those provided civilian employment after retirement; and

(c) what other steps have been taken for the welfare and resettlement of ex-servicemen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Nine out of the 49 accepted and 5 partly accepted recommendations of the High Level Committee on Problems of Ex-servicemen (HLC) have not yet been implemented. These recommendations relate to lateral induction

of ex-srvicemen officers|JCOs into civilian Group A & B posts, improvement in the discharge certificate, enhancement of medical facilities in Military Hospitals, establishment of ancillary units for defence industries and re-organisation of Directorate General Resettlement and Zonal Offices. Other recommendations of the HLC are in the process of implementation.

(b) About 50,000 to 55,000 service personnel retire or are released every year. The number of ex-servicemen who have found employment in Central Government, State Government, PSUs and private sectors during the last three years is as under:—

1984.....31,029

1985.....23,234

1986.....20,411

(c) Various measures have been taken for resettlement and welfare of ex-servicemen. The details of these measures are given in the attached statement.

Statement

Measures taken for resettlement and welfare of Ex-servicemen

1. A policy of reservation for employment of Ex-servicemen in Cenpointed in all Ministries|Departments PSUs have been followed by the Government of India and most of the State Governments have also adopted a similar policy.

2. Liaison Officers have been appointed in all Ministries|Department and in Central Governments PSUs, Banks, etc. to ensure the implementation of Government orders on reservation for ex-servicemen. All the State Governments have also been requested to take similar action.

3. From 1st August 1985, the sponsorships of ex-servicemen for reserved as well as unreserved vacancies is being undertaken by employment exchanges, in addition to similar work being carried out by Rajya|Zila Sainik Boards for reserved vacancies.

4. Efforts are afoot to equate as many Service trades as possible with Civil educational|professional qualifications to enable ex-servicemen to fulfil civilian eligibility criteria for re-employment. The exercise on the identification of posts that can be held by ex-servicemen is also in progress.

5. The possibility of increasing the intake of ex-servicemen into para-military organisations, DTC, Central Industrial Security Force, Defence Security Crops, is being explored.

6. It has been decided that the number of posts reserved for ex-servicemen but not filled up in any particular year may be added to the number of posts falling to the share of ex-servicemen in the next year. This is to be done without disturbing the general policy of reservation for other categories for whom reservation is available and subject to the condition that upper ceiling of 50% for total reservation as prescribed in the Supreme Court judgement is adhered to.

7. Relevant training courses have been organised *inter-alia* to equip ex-servicemen to effectively compete for salaried employment. A programme for training ex-servicemen for self-employment (PEXSEM) has been started in a few selected districts.

8. The State Governments have been requested to raise, wherever justified, Special Peace Keeping Forces, and to recruit sizeable number of ex-servicemen into such forces.

9. Support is provided to ex-servicemen for engaging in gainful

self-employment by means of sponsoring, with the Ministries/ Governments concerned, a policy of priority/preferential allotment of commercial booths, agencies in various trading and service activities, transportation service, etc.

10. An exercise is being undertaken to identify items which can be supplied to public sector undertakings through small scale units to be set up by ex-servicemen.

11. Interest Subsidy — Under the scheme of interest subsidy on bank loans operated through Rajya/Zila Sainik Boards out of their welfare funds (Amalgamated State Special Funds), the ex-servicemen are granted interest subsidy on loans upto Rs. 50,000/- for setting up small scale industry/ agro industry. The ex-service Officers whose monthly income does not exceed Rs. 1500/- per month have also been brought under the purview of this Scheme.

12. Subsidy to Ex-servicemen units — Under this scheme, any item supplied by an ex-servicemen enterprise to the Ministry of Defence will be eligible for price subsidy of 10% on the value of the items subject to a maximum of Rs. 50,000.00 in a year for a period of five years only.

13. A new Scheme, called, SEMFEX (Self Employment for Ex-servicemen) has been launched w.e.f. 1.4.87 by the Director General of Resettlement in collaboration with the Industrial Development Bank of India. Under this Scheme, entrepreneurial training, provision of loan and soft seed capital assistance are provided to intending ex-servicemen entrepreneurs. This scheme is being implemented through State Financial Corporations.

14. Widows of ex-servicemen pensioners including reservists who retired before 1-1-1964 have also been made eligible for pension.

15. The minimum pension has been raised to Rs. 375/- P.M.

16. Ex-servicemen pensioners and their families are entitled to medical facilities in Military Hospitals.

17. CSD canteens are being opened in areas having concentration of ex-servicemen.

18. The Railways have granted 75% concession in rail travel to war widows.

3118. *[Transferred to the 24th August, 1987.]*

T.V. serials review committee

3119. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 639 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 30th July, 1987 and state:

(a) what are the names of serials received so far by the Doordarshan for review by the Review Committee;

(b) what are the names of the members of this Review Committee and whether it consists of members from out side the Government;

(c) what are the educational qualifications, background aptitude of these members and the criteria in selecting these members;

(d) what are the norms taken into account while reviewing these proposals; and

(e) whether some of the proposals have already been reviewed during June and July, 1987 and if so, what are the names and the decision of the Review Committee in this regard?